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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/698,404	10/27/2000	Uwe Schumann	BEIERSDORF 661-WCG	5395

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EXAMINER

CHAN, SING P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1734

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2003

18

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/698,404	SCHUMANN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Sing P Chan	1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). 16.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Upon reconsideration of the applicant's arguments, the final rejection has been withdrawn and a new ground of rejection applied.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shumann et al (U.S. 6,129,983) in view of Cotsakis et al (U.S. 5,686,179).

Regarding claim 1, Schumann et al discloses a self-adhesive tape. The adhesive tape is formed by using a two-part polyurethane composition comprising an isocyanate and a polyol. (Col 2, lines 21-38) The mixture is mixed in a planetary mixer and the mixture is cast on to cured adhesive composition on release paper or release film and is cured by passing the laminate through the drying tunnel at a constant speed. (Col 3, line 65 to Col 4, line 12) Schumann et al does not disclose mixing the components continuously, continuously applying the mixture to the release paper, and rolling the laminate at a winding station. However, mixing the components continuously, applying the mixture to the release paper, and rolling the laminate at a winding station is well known and conventional as shown for example by Cotsakis et al. Cotsakis et al discloses a method of forming a pressure sensitive tape. The method includes mixing

the components in a continuous mixing extruder, continuous applying the mixture to the release paper, curing the mixture in a continuous oven, rolling the adhesive tape onto a tape core to from a tape roll. (Col 3, lines 37-61)

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to continuously mix the components in a continuous mixer, continuously applying the mixture to the backing material, curing the mixture in a continuous oven, rolling the adhesive tape onto a tape core to from a tape roll as disclosed by Cotaskis et al in the method of Schumann et al to form the tape efficiently, quickly, and with high output.

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Schumann et al discloses a second backing material with cured adhesive composition on the release paper or release film is applied to the first backing material. (Col 4, lines 4-8)

Regarding claim 4, Schumann et al discloses additive can be added to the polyurethane mixture; materials such as dye, (Col 3, lines 5-11) catalysts, (Col 2, line 53) and other additives. (Col 3, lines 24-31)

Regarding claim 5, Schumann et al discloses the polyurethane mixture is positioned on the adhesive layer on the release paper or release film. (Col 3, line 65 to Col 4, line 6)

Regarding claim 6, Schumann et al discloses the backing is a dehesive media. (Col 3, lines 65-67)

Regarding claim 7, Schumann et al discloses a double-sided self-adhesive tape. (Col 4, lines 13-18)

Regarding claim 8, Schumann et al discloses the dehesive media are release paper or release film. (Col 3, lines 65-67)

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schumann et al (U.S. 6,129,983) in view of the Cotsakis et al (U.S. 5,686,179) as applied to claim 6, and further in view of the admitted prior art.

Schumann et al as modified above is silent as to the dehesive media can also include woven, non-woven, and elastomer. However, it is well known and conventional to use backing that include woven, non-woven, and elastomer as shown for example by the admitted prior art. The admitted prior art discloses backing material include all material in web form such as woven, non-woven, and elastomers and the coating of these web form backing is well established for making self-adhesive articles. (See specification, page 1, lines 33-35 and page 2, lines 28-29)

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see Page 4 line 11 to Page 5, line 3, filed August 18, 2003, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-8 under 102(e) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Cotsakis et al (U.S. 5,686,179) a newly found prior art to provide the teaching of forming adhesive tape in a continuous process.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sing P Chan whose telephone number is 703-305-3175.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30AM-11:15AM and 12:15PM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on 703-308-3853. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

Chan Suig Po
spc

Richard Crispino

RICHARD CRISPINO
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